AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR

AND

Literary Gazette.

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE BOOK PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION.

Conducted under the direction of the Association, by CHARLES R. RODE.

Communications should be addressed to THE AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR, *No. 6 Appletons' Building, 348 Broadway.*

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TO THE TRADE.

The attention of the Trade is respectfully directed to the following prospectus. The AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR has now been published more than three years, with a constantly increasing circulation and advertising patronage, and the conductor is permitted to refer to many who will testify to its advantages as a reference for the book-buyer, and as an advertising medium for the publisher.

N.B.—Yearly advertisements and subscriptions may be commenced at any period.

TO BOOKSELLERS, BOOK-BUYERS, AND BOOK-READERS.

THE AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR

AND LITERARY GAZETTE,

CONDUCTED BY CHARLES R. RODE,

Under the Direction of the New York Book-Publishers' Association,

Is published every week at $2 per annum, payable in advance; and for the following reasons claims the favorable consideration of all individuals, companies, and associations, who take an interest in the making, selling, buying, or reading of books.

1st. It is the only journal in the United States which keeps a full and correct record of CURRENT PUBLICATIONS. Every number contains the title of books issued during the week, with their SIZE, PRICE, NUMBER OF PAGES, and PUBLISHER.

2d. It contains regularly a list of the most important NEW BOOKS issued from the ENGLISH PRESS.

3d. It is the only journal which gives PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS.

4th. Each number has a copious collection of current LITERARY INTELLIGENCE, concerning BOOKS and BOOK-MAKERS, compiled from the best and most authentic domestic, and foreign sources.

5th. The *Circular*, besides occasional EDITORIALS upon subjects of interest, has in nearly every number EXTRACTS FROM NEW BOOKS, selected with especial regard to their general attractiveness.

6th. It also gives EXPOSITORY NOTICES of NEW PUBLICATIONS; intended, not as critical commentaries, but as guides to the buyer, explaining the purpose, and method of each book, without examining into its intrinsic merits.

7th. The *American Publishers' Circular* is the OFFICIAL MEDIUM of ADVERTISING of the great body of *American Publishers*, and in that department alone possesses sufficient value to recommend it to the Trade and the Reading Public.

☞ Back numbers can be supplied.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

PER ANNUM.

One Page,	$400
Half "	250
One Column,	150
Half "	100
Quarter "	75

TRANSIENT—TERMS CASH.

One Page, each Insertion,	25
Half " " "	15
One Column,	8
Half "	5
Quarter "	3
Eighth "	2

Specimen copies of this journal are sent, post-paid, to non-subscribers for their consideration. No bookseller should neglect to subscribe.

To the Book Trade of America.

The AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR AND LITERARY GAZETTE was commenced on the 1st September, 1855, and has thus far been conducted with the most gratifying success. The intention of its projectors to make it a reliable medium for the Trade, confining it to the record of interesting facts, and in no wise making it the vehicle of any private personal opinion; to permit free access to its columns to every one on an equal footing, has been fully and completely carried out. Though this journal originated with the NEW YORK BOOK PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION, that body has only employed its columns for the purpose of reporting its proceedings without specially and exclusively advocating its views. Observant readers must be aware that on every important question all opinions, as far as offered, have been fairly represented. The columns of the paper have been opened for the thorough discussion of every subject of interest to the Book Trade without regard to the views or the inclinations of the NEW YORK BOOK PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION. Thus, in regard to *International Copyright, a shortened term of credit, &c.*, this journal has been perfectly neutral, giving only the arguments of others without offering any views of its own. It is in this feature that the AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR commends itself to the whole Trade, every member of which may be assured, to whatever section of country he may belong, or whatever may be his peculiar opinions, or relations with others, that its influence will never be employed to forward the interests of any individual, association or section, but will be devoted wholly and impartially to the general good of all.

The convenience of such a journal, wherein any publisher or other may find immediate communication with the Trade, is universally recognized, and we beg to assure advertisers that the circle of our influence has been continually enlarging since the day of our first issue. With the majority of the Trade, the CIRCULAR has fulfilled its intent and become a necessity, and, in view of the information it gives, it would be difficult to imagine how it could be otherwise to the intelligent publisher and bookseller. To the former it gives an opportunity to announce his forthcoming issues, and to observe those of others; to advertise *gratis* the title, size, number of pages, and price of each new publication; to the latter it gives all the information necessary concerning books in press and books published, with notices and extracts, besides all the current literary intelligence and gossip, both at home and abroad. In this connection, it will not be inappropriate to reprint the prospectus of the *Committee* under whose direction the paper was commenced, and to ask of the Trade its careful perusal, in order that they may judge whether its objects are worthy in themselves, and whether they have been faithfully carried out. If the answer be favorable, we may ask with confidence for the continuance of that support which has heretofore been so liberally extended.

That the Book Trade requires a better method of communication between its members than any other branch of business is self-evident. The Publisher, anxious to draw the attention of the Bookseller to his newly published, or forthcoming books, must necessarily, especially if his business is extensive, either advertise largely, or send circulars to his customers through the post-office. The latter expedient is both expensive and uncertain. The difficulty of ascertaining the precise location of all Booksellers seems insurmountable; and many of the circulars frequently never reach their destination. To advertise largely in either a daily or weekly newspaper (except in one exclusively devoted to the trade) is, when the object of the Publisher is to reach the eye of the Bookseller, almost as uncertain. To obviate some of these difficulties, the New York Publishers' Association propose to issue "The American Publishers' Circular and Literary Gazette," on the following plan:—

1. To combine in one, the circulars, so to speak, of the various Publishers of the country, and thus, by dividing the cost of printing, &c., among many, to materially reduce the expense to each.
2. By giving in its columns such information and literary intelligence as will make it, aside from the advertisements, an absolute *necessity* to all Booksellers.
3. To issue the paper in a neat, compact, and convenient form; so that all who receive it will find it to their interest to bind the numbers, and preserve them as a volume for reference.
4. To regulate and modify, from time to time, the price of the paper, and of the advertising, so as to cover the actual expenses only.

The advantages set forth in the above plan, it is believed, are not afforded by any paper now published; and should the trade, throughout the country, cordially co-operate with the Association in its endeavors, we feel assured that both the Publisher and the Bookseller would be benefited in the highest degree.

It is absolutely necessary for the Bookseller to have as perfect a knowledge as possible of all books published, both in this and foreign countries, so that he need turn away no customer unsatisfied. The "Publishers' Circular" will give full and accurate lists of all new publications, American and foreign, in every number; together with literary intelligence, statistics, and various information connected with the publishing world.

It would undoubtedly relieve the Bookseller of a laborious task if he could obtain an insight into the contents of the books he sells without the necessity of thoroughly perusing them. It is almost absolutely necessary that he should do so, to enable him to represent the utility and merits of the works offered in an intelligent and reliable manner. To relieve the bookseller from this task, it is proposed to devote a portion of the paper to brief epitomes of all new publications sent for notice in its columns. The paper, however, will attempt no criticisms; it will simply record facts. The principal object of the paper, "to promote the acquisition and circulation of early and authentic intelligence on all subjects connected with Publishing and the Trade in Books," will be carried out with all possible faithfulness.

Publishers and Booksellers in all parts of the country are earnestly solicited to give their aid in extending the circulation of the "Circular" among all dealers in books. Booksellers, it is believed, will find it to their interest to secure a number of copies of the paper (which, as will be seen in the prospectus, can be obtained at about cost) for gratuitous circulation among their customers. To secure extra copies of the paper, it will be necessary to give at least one week's notice to the Actuary.

Any suggestions from the members of the trade generally, either in regard to the management of the Trade Sales; the publishing of the "Circular;" or any other topic of interest to the trade, will be gratefully received.

Notice to Advertisers.—The circulation of the AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR, includes, as paying subscribers, nearly every considerable bookseller in the United States and Canada; but, in addition, copies will from time to time be sent gratuitously to *every bookseller in the country.* Since the commencement of the journal the price of advertising has been reduced nearly one half.

Extracts from New Books.

BOOK-MAKING IN AMERICA.

From the "Boston Transcript."

It is somewhat alarming to know that the number of houses now actually engaged in the publishing of books, not including periodicals, amounts to *more than three hundred.* About three-fourths of these are engaged in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, the balance being divided between Cincinnati, Buffalo, Auburn, Albany, Louisville, Chicago, St. Louis, and a few other places. There are more than *three thousand booksellers* who dispense the publications of these three hundred, besides six or seven thousand apothecaries, grocers, and hardware dealers, who connect literature with drugs, molasses, and nails.

The best printing in America is probably now done in Cambridge; the best cloth-binding in Boston, and the best calf and morocco in New York and Philadelphia. In these two latter styles we are, as yet, a long distance from Hayday, the pride of London. His finish is supreme. There is nothing between it and perfection.

Books have multiplied to such an extent in our country that it now takes 750 paper mills with 2000 engines in constant operation, to supply the printers, who work day and night, endeavoring to keep their engagements with publishers. These tireless mills produced 270,000,000 pounds of paper the past year, which immense supply has sold for about $27,000,000. A pound and a quarter of rags are required for a pound of paper, and 340,000,000 pounds were therefore consumed in this way last year. The cost of manufacturing a twelvemonth's supply of paper for the United States, aside from labor and rags, is computed at $4,000,000.

Some idea of the stock required to launch a popular work may be gathered from Messrs. Longman's Ledger. These gentlemen report that when 25,000 copies of Mr. Macaulay's two recent volumes went flying all abroad from Paternoster Row, no less than 5,000 reams of paper, 6 tons pasteboard, and 7,000 yards of calico were swallowed up.

Most of the large publishing houses now stereotype everything they intend to print. The electrotyping process is largely employed, and an experiment is now being made in Boston, of which we shall hear more at some future day, which, if successful, will decrease the expense of stereotyping about one-third. We have lately heard that a machine is in use in New York for type-setting, and that the second volume of Mr. Irving's "Life of Washington" was prepared for the press by its aid.

Four hundred years ago, a single book of gossiping fiction was sold before the palace-gate in the French capital for fifteen hundred dollars. The same amount of matter contained in this expensive volume, Mr. Harper now supplies for twenty-five cents. Costly books, however, are not yet out of fashion, for we are all glad to know that seventeen hundred subscribers have already been obtained for Professor Agassiz's splendid new enterprise.

The Harper establishment, the largest of our publishing houses, covers half an acre of ground. If old Mr. Caxton, who printed those stories of the Trojan war so long ago, could follow the ex-Mayor of New York in one of his morning rounds in Franklin square, he would be, to say the least, a little surprised. He would see in one room the floor loaded with a weight of 150 tons of presses. The electrotyping process would puzzle him somewhat; the drying and pressing process would startle him; the bustle would make his head ache; and the stock-room would quite finish him.

An edition of *Harper's Monthly Magazine* alone consists of 160,000 copies. Few persons have any idea how large a number this is as applied to the edition of a book. It is computed that if these magazines were to rain down, and one man should attempt to pick them up, like chips, it would take him a fortnight to pick up the copies of one single number, supposing him to pick up one every three seconds, and to work ten hours a day.

The rapidity with which books are now manufactured is almost incredible. A complete copy of one of Bulwer's novels, published across the water in three volumes, and reproduced here in one, was swept through the press in New York in fifty hours, and offered for sale smoking hot in the streets. The fabulous edifice proposed by a Yankee from Vermont no longer seems an impossibility. "Build the establishment according to my plan," said he: "drive a sheep in at one end, and he shall immediately come out at the other, four quarters of lamb, a felt hat, a leather apron, and a quarto bible."

About one book only in a hundred is a success. When Campbell, at a literary festival, toasted Bonaparte as a friend of literature, because he once had a bookseller shot, he was a trifle too rough on the trade. It is impossible always for a publisher to decide rightly. All publishers are naturally shy of a new MS. of poetry, for instance, for they know by experience that the deadest of all dead books is a dead volume of verse. The sepulchre of deceased poetry in Mr. Burnham's churchyard of old books, in Cornhill, is the largest bin in his establishment.

Some of the best books, which have afterwards had the largest sales, have been in manuscript the most widely rejected. The novel of "Jane Eyre" was turned away from the publishing doors of almost every respectable house in London, and was pulled by accident out of a publisher's iron safe, where it had begun to grow mouldy, by the daughter of the bookseller, who had himself forgotten it. "Eothen" was carried by its author, Mr. Kinglake, to twenty different houses, till at last, in a fit of despair, he gave the copyright away to an obscure bookseller, paying the expenses of publication out of his own pocket.

Mr. Thackeray's "Vanity Fair" was rejected by Mr. Colburn, for whose magazine it was written, that astute gentleman complaining that there was no interest in it. A New York publisher fought the writer of a new popular book from Spring to Autumn, and at length gave in from sheer inability to escape importunity longer. After it was stereotyped, and before it was printed, he offered every inducement to persuade a brother bookseller to take it off his hands, but without success. In despair he at last published it himself, and the sale went up to 20,000 in one season.

BEAUTY IN ANIMALS.

From "The True and the Beautiful in Nature, Art, Morals, and Religion, selected from the Works of John Ruskin."

Of eyes we shall find those ugliest which have in them no expression nor life whatever, but a corpse-like stare, or an indefinite meaningless

glaring, as in some lights, those of owls and cats, and mostly of insects and of all creatures in which the eye seems rather an external, optical instrument than a bodily member through which emotion and virtue of soul may be expressed (as pre-eminently in the chameleon), because the seeming want of sensibility and vitality in a living creature is the most painful of all wants. And next to these in ugliness come the eyes that gain vitality indeed, but only by means of the expression of intense malignity, as in the serpent and alligator; and next to these, to whose malignity is added the virtue of subtlety and keenness, as of the lynx and hawk; and then, by diminishing the malignity and increasing the expressions of comprehensiveness and determination, we arrive at those of the lion and eagle, and at last, by destroying malignity altogether, at the fair eye of the herbivorous tribes, wherein the superiority of beauty consists always in the greater or less sweetness and gentleness primarily, as in the gazelle, camel, and ox, and in the greater or less intellect, secondarily, as in the horse and dog, and finally, in gentleness and intellect both in man. And again, taking the mouth, another source of expression, we find it ugliest where it has none, as mostly in fish, or perhaps where, without gaining much in expression of any kind, it becomes a formidable destructive instrument, as again in the alligator, and then, by some increase of expression, we arrive at birds' beaks, wherein there is more obtained by the different ways of setting on the mandibles than is commonly supposed (compare the bills of the duck and the eagle), and thence we reach the finely-developed lips of the carnivora, which nevertheless lose that beauty they have, in the actions of snarling and biting, and from these we pass to the nobler because gentler and more sensible, of the horse, camel, and fawn, and so again up to man, only there is less traceableness of the principle in the mouths of the lower animals, because they are in slight measure only capable of expression, and chiefly used as instruments, and that of low function, whereas in man the mouth is given most definitely as a means of expression, beyond and above its lower functions.

We are to take it for granted, that every creature of God is in some way good, and has a duty and specific operation providentially accessory to the well-being of all; we are to look in this faith to that employment and nature of each, and to derive pleasure from their entire perfection and fitness for the duty they have to do, and in their entire fulfilment of it; and so we are to take pleasure and find beauty in the magnificent binding together of the jaws of the ichthyosaurus for catching and hooking, and in the adaptation of the lion for springing, and of the locust for destroying, and of the lark for singing, and in every creature for the doing of that which God has made it to do.

Literary Intelligence.

From the London Publishers' Circular, December 1.

If trade subscription lists are any criterion, we may quote The Scouring of the White Horse, Ellis's Missionary Narrative of Madagascar, and the Story of Bethlehem, as the most popular of the works issued since our last. Of the first, some 6000 copies were taken: it is the new book by the author of Tom Brown's School Days, and therefore not much to be wondered at: it is likely to hold its way, too, and sell beyond the trade: although but an antiquarian story, the reader is coaxed into it by one who understands the sympathies of his age, and what with the real freshness of the slight tale of modern times that encircles it, and Doyle's serio-comic illustrations, it is an admirable book for the season. Of the second, what can be said more than that the edition was sold at once? and to quote the words of the *Athenæum*, "We predict for it a success scarcely second to that of Dr. Livingstone's Journal." Of the third, between 3000 and 4000 were taken, and it promises to be as popular as the other volumes by the same author (the Rev. John Macduff), Memories of Gennesaret, Footsteps of St. Paul, &c.

But our summary of the leading books shows more important works than these, if not likely to be so popular. It includes, in Biography and History —A Memoir of Thomas Uwins, by his Widow; a Life of James Watt, by Muirhead (condensed from the 3 vols. 8vo. 1855, which comprised much matter beyond the life); the First Volume of Milton's Life and History of his Time by Professor Masson; a cheap edition of Motley's Rise of the Dutch Republic. In Fine Arts and the Sciences—a beautiful work on Color, and the Necessity for the Cultivation of Taste among all Classes, by Sir J. G. Wilkinson, with colored illustrations; and an acquisition to Natural History in Nicholls's Forest of Dean, with illustrations. In Politics—Editions, both in French and English, of Montalembert's celebrated article on the Indian Debate. In Travel and Research—The Third Volume of the new translation of Herodotus; a cheaper edition of the Abbé Huc's work on China; Mr. Minturn's New York to Delhi; King's Italian Valleys of the Alps, in the style of Lord Dufferin's Letters from High Latitudes, of which we have a smaller and cheaper edition, very slightly less attractive than the original; Möllhausen's Mississippi to the Coasts of the Pacific; Ellis's Three Visits to Madagascar during 1853, '54, and '56; Medley's Year's Campaigning in India, with Plans. In Theology—Dr. Guthrie's Christ and the Inheritance of the Saints; a Second Series of Mr. Blunt's Plain Sermons; a volume of Literary Remains of the late Rev. Fred. Robertson, of Brighton. The Report of the First Conference of the Young Men's Christian Association, held in Leeds, is announced by Messrs. Heaton & Son, of that city, who likewise announce a new work on the Book of Revelations, by John Mills, author of Sacred Symbology. In Tales and Romance—Days of Old, by the author of Ruth and her Friends; Tales from "Blackwood," Vol. 3; The Mill in the Valley, by the author of Moravian Life in the Black Forest; The Maiden Sister, by the author of Dorothy; The Foster Brothers, a History of School and College Life; Agnes Hopetoun's School and Holidays, by Mrs. Oliphant.

We will now briefly recapitulate the list of Christmas Books published during the past two months, because they form, according to annual custom, the leading feature of our Number for December 1, with specimens of their Illustrations.

Of the first-class in appearance, and price ranging from 10s. to the orthodox guinea, are The Merrie Days of England, with 20 engravings of the Sports and Pastimes from drawings by Nash, &c.; Byron's Childe Harold, illustrated by Percival Skelton from drawings expressly taken from the scenes described; Favorite English Poems, with 200 illustrations by the first artists; Wordsworth's Poems, selected and edited by Mr. Willmott, with 100 illustrations; Goldsmith's Poems, with 40 illustrations printed in colors; The Hamlet, by Thomas Warton, with 14 etchings by Birket Foster; The Poets of the West, an admirable selection of American poetry, illustrated by the first artists of both England and America; Thomson's Poetical Works, illustrated uniform with Cowper and Herbert by Birket Foster and Noel Humphreys; Wordsworth's White Doe of Rylstone, illustrated by the same artists; Odes and Sonnets, with illustrations in tint.

Of the smaller season books, varying from 5s. to 10s., although scarcely less attractive in appearance, Gray's Poems, illustrated and ornamented by Birket Foster and Harry Rogers must head the list—it is a little gem: Blair's Grave, illustrated by Birket Foster; Light from the Path of Life, choicely and appropriately illuminated; Wordsworth's Deserted Cottage (forming the third illustrated volume of the poet's works for this season); Our Little Ones in Heaven, with a frontispiece after Sir Joshua Reynolds.

And of the Juvenile list,—but its name is legion, and where all are so good, it seems almost invidious to mention any: but of the graver kind there is Illustrated Songs and Hymns for the Little Ones; Miss Corner's Sunday-Book; The Triumphs of Steam; The Boy Missionary; Little Susy and her Six Birthdays; etc. And for the laughter-loving, there are two editions of almost a forgotten favorite, Baron Munchausen; a treasury of nursery toy-books under the title of The Favorite Pleasure Books, with 100 colored plates; The Headlong Career and Woful Ending of Precocious Piggy, one of the late Thomas Hood's whimsicalities, resuscitated with great effect for the benefit of juveniles by Messrs. Griffith & Farran: it was originally told by the poet to his children, one of whom now illustrates it, and the other edits it. The same firm, as usual, have a capital selection of books for the young. The same may be said of Messrs. Darton & Co., Dean & Co., Kent & Co., Low, Son & Co., and Tegg & Son: consultation of lists from these houses will give both buyers and sellers a good chance.

Messrs. Longman & Co. announce a long list of new books and new editions. The former includes A Memoir of Captain Thornton Bate, R. N., who fell at the storming of Canton, by the Rev. John Baillie; The Letters of Sir Augustus Frazer during the Peninsular and Waterloo Campaigns: the Classified Contents and copious Index to Todd's Cyclopædia of Medicine; A Handbook of Hospital Practice, by Dr. Lyons, of the Dublin Hospital; Scenes from the Ice-Fields, being Illustrations of the Upper Ice-World of Mont Blanc, by Mr. E. T. Coleman; An Essay on Classification, by Professor Louis Agassiz. The latter includes a cheaper edition of Abbé Huc's work on China; a People's Edition of the Rev. Sydney Smith's Works, in 1s. monthly numbers; a second edition of Madame Schimmel Penninck's Memoir, in one volume; a third edition of the Rev. Canon Moseley's work on Popular Astronomy.

The business of the late Mr. Hatchard, whose death was recorded in our last, will be continued under the firm of Hatchard & Co.; Mr. Alfred Taylor, well known and respected by the trade as the working-manager of the business for a long number of years, having been admitted by the executors into partnership.

Mr. Bentley's annual dinner sale came off at the Albion on the 18th inst., when a large number of books were subscribed for by the trade. Mrs. Grace Elliott's Journal kept during the French Revolution sold nearly 800 copies; Dr. Doran's New Pictures, 1000 copies; Polehampton's Life, new edition, 300; of the Ingoldsby Legends, 2480 copies were subscribed for; a new edition of Sermons in Stones, 700 copies: Buckland's Curiosities of Natural History, 600 copies; Andrews's History of Journalism, 600 copies; and an edition of the Ladies of Bever Hollow.

Lord Macaulay is not to have it all his own way with the reputation of William Penn, although Mr. Hepworth Dixon has failed to gain either a modification or a defence of the charges from his lordship; *An Inquiry into the Evidence*, by Mr. Paget, a barrister, is announced by Messrs. Blackwood for next month.

According to a paragraph in the weekly papers, the whole of the speeches delivered in Westminster Hall at the impeachment of Warren Hastings are to be printed at the public expense. Rather late in the day, but opportune to the consideration of Indian reform.

The late Madame Ida Pfeiffer's Journey to Madagascar (her last exploration) is preparing for publication, according to her request, by her son, a pianist at Rio Janeiro.

Mr. Thomas Allsop, who, it will be remembered, at the time of the attempt on the French Emperor's life, had so far to succumb to Imperial clamor as to fly to New York, is stated, while there, to have sold to an American publisher some unpublished papers of Charles Lamb and Coleridge; and there is consequently announced for one of the leading periodicals, "a story by Charles Lamb, hitherto unpublished; to be followed by a selection of notes, all marked by his characteristic quaintness." As the announcement concludes,—"It is not often that anything by so universally-loved an author remains so long unknown to the public." (!)

At a general meeting of the *Cercle de la Librarie* of Paris, held on the 22d ult., the delegation who had attended the Brussels Congress gave an account of their mission, and of the results of the Congress as expressed in the votes given upon the various subjects brought before it. After the Report had been read, one of the delegates expressed his regret that the principle of copyright in perpetuity had not been acknowledged, and endeavored to persuade the meeting to add to the report an expression of feeling similar to his own: in this he was outvoted, and the report as it stood was ordered to be printed.

The "town-talk" of the *Illustrated London News* informs us that a life of Sir Philip Francis, to whom Lord Macaulay attributes Junius's Letters, is in preparation by Mr. Joseph Parkes of Birmingham, "a well-read man," and the holder of the papers of Sir P. Francis's secretary and administrator, Mr. Dubois.

Thomas Colley Grattan, author of "Highways and Byeways," at present our consul for the State of Massachusetts, has in the press, in 2 vols. 8vo., a work on Civilized America.

The *Glasgow Morning Journal* states,—"We have seen a letter from Mr. Dickens, in which he strongly repudiates his being put in nomination for the Lord Rectorship, and says, that the movement was not only without his sanction, but expressly opposed by him."

It is a constant inquiry, "When does Mr. Thackeray intend to publish his Lectures on the Georges?"

Dr. Barth, the great African traveller, has been appointed by the Queen a Commander of the Bath. It seems that the "belief" of the *Lancet* is not well founded, that Sir Benjamin Brodie would be raised to the peerage for his eminent services, by the title of Baron Betchworth.

The Duke of Wellington is advertising in the Irish papers for a portion of the Correspondence of the late Duke, September 1805, to April 1807, said to be missing, and necessary to the completion of the Supplemental Despatches. His Grace believed that the papers were deposited somewhere in Dublin during his secretaryship in 1807.

The *Literary Gazette* says—"Sir William à Beckett, late Chief Justice of Victoria, has favored us with the following interesting extract from a letter just received from Melbourne:—

"'What think you of our Library? the attendance has reached 8000 persons a month, actually a larger number than that last year at the British Museum—93,000 to 96,000. This year, also, we are fortunate enough to have a grant of £20,000 to expend, and a wing is being added, which gives an additional reading room 90 feet long.'"

A year or two since a crowd of books rushed into print all over the United States, to which the term was given of "sensation books," each of which was to out-circulate Uncle Tom's Cabin. The eager reprint of many of these in England brought about the new style of republication in cheap form of established favorite fictions, and flooded us with "railway books." Lately, from the failure of most of such books in America, and the general panic, they have been scarce; we hear, however, there is to be a "revival;" and a London publisher put into our hands the other day three letters he had received from different correspondents, by *the same mail*, each offering him the simultaneous publication in England. Their estimation of their respective books is rather good. Of one, the writers say, after dwelling upon the trash that has failed, "this is a superior book,—had we not thought so, we should not have published it." Of the second, its publishers write, "it is one of the most alluring productions that ever issued from the press; in interest it has the absorbing character of the most fascinating romance, while in startling incident and stirring adventure it fairly shames fiction: we have never before read such a history, such a life, such a book." And of the third, its publishers say, "It will certainly outsell Uncle Tom's Cabin."

New Publications

Received at the Office of the AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR.

[In the following List will be found the names of such books only as have been sent to this Journal. The titles of all books as they are issued will be regularly inserted in the proper column.]

John Bartlett publishes "Practical Dissections," by Richard M. Hodges, M.D., demonstrator of Anatomy in the medical department of Harvard University. This is not a "Treatise on Anatomy, nor in any way a substitute for one. It is intended to be simply a practical guide in the ordinary dissections of the medical student, describing on the same page, and in connection, the muscles, nerves, arteries, veins or other structures which are conjointly exposed, and only so far as exposed, in dissecting any one of the parts into which the dead subject is usually divided."

Hubbard W. Swett favors us with a copy of "Howe's complete Ball-Room Hand-Book: containing upwards of Three Hundred Dances, including all the latest fashionable Dances."

Crosby, Nichols & Co. have got out several attractive volumes for the Holidays. "The Age of Chivalry" is by Thomas Bulfinch, author of "The Age of Fable." It is divided into two parts; the first containing "King Arthur and his Knights," the second, "The Mabinogeon; or, Welsh Popular Tales," and contains several excellent illustrations. "The Life of George Washington, written for Children," is by E. Cecil. "Great pains have been taken to make it accurate, and to avoid the use of long words; but it is not possible to render all the complications and responsibilities of Washington's public career perfectly plain to children. Enough, however, is accomplished, if they can enter into the spirit of his life, and gain something of that loyalty to his memory which every American should feel." Two Juveniles by Trauermantel are "Seedtime and Harvest:" Tales translated from the German of Rosalie Koch and Maria Burg; and "A Will and a Way;" translated from the German of T. Michel and Aug. Moritz. The same publishers also send us "Bookkeeping by Single Entry, for Common Schools; adapted to Payson, Dunton and Scribner's combined System of Penmanship," by L. B. Hanford, A.M., and J. W. Payson, principals of the Boston Mercantile Academy. "Wild Sports in the Far West," is by Frederick Gerstaecker, several of whose lively narratives have already appeared in English. This volume contains exciting descriptions of hunting, with the full accompaniment of hair-breath escapes, and is illustrated with eight crayon drawings, executed in oil colors from designs by Harrison Weir.

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Trubner & Co., London, oblige us with a "Proposal for the Publication of a New English Dictionary by the Philological Society," of which enterprise mention has already been made in this journal. We make a short extract from the pamphlet, hoping when more space will permit to recur further to the subject. "A year ago the Philological Society determined to form a collection of words hitherto unregistered in the Dictionaries of Johnson and Richardson, with a view of publishing a supplementary volume, which might be used with either of those works. A committee was appointed, circulars were issued, and the public as well as members of the Society were invited to take part in the work. The result has been, that upwards of 100 collectors have voluntarily given their services, and more than 160 works and parts of works have been submitted to examination upon a uniform system. The success of the experiment was so encouraging, that some members of the Society, unwilling that the energies thus brought into play should be expended in the production of a work necessarily of a subordinate and imperfect character, strongly urged the propriety of extending the scheme to the compilation of a new and more Scientific Dictionary than any at present existing. The proposal was, after much deliberation, entertained and accepted, and the Philological Society, at its meeting of January 7, 1858, resolved that, instead of the Supplement to the standard English Dictionaries, then in course of preparation by the Society's Unregistered Words Committee, a New Dictionary of the English Language should be prepared under the authority of the Philological Society. The work has been placed by the Society in the hands of two Committees; the one Literary and Historical, consisting of the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster, F. J. Furnivall, Esq., and H. Coleridge, Esq., Secretary; and the other Etymological, consisting of Hensleigh Wedgwood, Esq., and Professor Malden; and the former of these Committees will edit the Dictionary and direct the general working of the scheme. Arrangements for the publication of the work in 5s. Parts have been made with Messrs. Trübner and Co., of Paternoster Row. The object of the present Prospectus is twofold: first, to lay before the public, as concisely as possible, the main outlines of the plan upon which the New Dictionary will be constructed, and to ask from that public such further help in the reading and noting of books as will enable the plan to be carried out satisfactorily; and, secondly, to furnish our contributors with such a system of rules as will direct them to the principal points to be attended to in perusing and analyzing the books they may undertake, and also ensure general uniformity in the results arrived at."

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